

An Approach to Regulating Salt In The Central Valley



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Salt – A Water Quality Problem Regional Board Must Address

- **Salt build-up in San Joaquin Valley**
- **Increasing salinity in the San Joaquin River**
- **Salting up of soil**
- **Salt migration to groundwater**

Board's Mechanism For Addressing Salinity

Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan)

Basin Plan is a Regulatory Document

- **List waterbodies**
- **Identifies beneficial uses**
- **Establishes numeric and narrative standards**
- **Establishes implementation plan**

Amending Basin Plan Could Mean More Restrictions and Requirements

- **Restrictive discharge limits**
- **Costly studies and reports**
- **Projects to manage salt**
- **Banning of discharges**

Two Approaches to Amending the Basin Plan

- **Traditional Regional Board approach**
- **Collaborative and integrated approach**

Traditional Basin Planning Approach

- **Developed by Regional Board staff**
- **Based on best available data – often limited**
- **Prescribed public participation process**

Collaborative and Integrated Approach

- **Developed through a collaborative Regional Board/Stakeholder process**
- **Additional information and data can be developed to enhance decision making**
- **Integrate Regional Board basin planning and regional salinity management planning process**

Preference: collaboration and integration

GOALS

- **Effective, protective Basin Plan**
- **Cooperative, engaged stakeholders**
- **Efficient use of everyone's resources**

More Details To Come

11:30 AM

“Role of Regulation – Benefit or Battle”